

Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties

Early Childhood Coordinating Council Work Group Meeting Minutes

MEETING COMMENCED	1:00pm, September 12, 2017 Philomath City Hall, Philomath
MEETING CALLED BY	Kristi Collins
WORK GROUP MEMBERS PRESENT	Kristi Collins, Aoife Magee, Cindy Bond, Laura Lundeen, Nina Patrorch, Lauren Sigman (remotely), Lola Jones (remotely), Renee Smith (remotely)
VERSION	Final
RECORDED?	Yes

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION ITEM	New Chairs for Linn & Benton County
Kristi explains that the EL Hub has been searching for new Chairs for Linn and Benton counties.	
Barb will continue as the Lincoln County Chair.	
Kristi reached out to Lori Romeo with the Boys & Girls Club, who believes would be a good fit for the Linn County Chair seat.	
Aoife is also interested in the position. Her side work is in early childhood education and early intervention. The work she would do as a Chair aligns with her mission.	
Kristi asks that if anyone else would like to serve on a Chair seat, please let her know.	
Renee looks forward to the new Chairs coming in.	

DISCUSSION ITEM	HB 3106 (Hubs convene preschool providers) – Subcommittee update
On August 8th, 2017, Jerri lead two meetings.	
<u>Joint Preschool Application Meeting:</u>	
The State is mandating Head Start, the EL Hub, and Promise Programs create a single application that provides families with information about all the preschool opportunities that meet their needs.	
We had nine people present to speak about this process.	
Combining multiple application processes will be difficult since each agency's application process differs.	
We have two major Head Start entities (Lincoln feels they don't need to participate. They feel their process works well for their county).	
Nina explains there is a difference between a screening tool and an application process. We might dedicate tier 1 as a screening tool.	
HB 3106 mandates that Hubs with Preschool Promise recipients serve children who are at or below 200% of the poverty level while Head Start serves children below the poverty level. If we're going to capture the most children in the appropriate slots, then the screening process can't take away family choice, but guide families toward either Preschool Promise or Head Start. One organization might have empty slots but have a waiting list of unqualified families. How do we get every slot filled with the right families? It's important to note that our Hub region currently does not have Preschool Promise slots but we want to be ready should the opportunity arise.	

<p>Jerri explains that there is sometimes a large pressure for programs (such as Preschool Promise and Early Head Start in the past) to fill their slots who then fill them with families who may be an inappropriate fit for their program.</p>
<p>Due to federal performance standards, if Head Start doesn't fill all of their slots during a specified timeframe, they are at-risk for losing those slots for the community. The number of available slots in the community meets about half the number of children needing these licensed-programs.</p>
<p>Can we determine the timeline for filling their slots by licensed-program agencies, and then sponsor a roundup of parents within our communities? This will help families attend one centralized and unified gathering and help these agencies reduce the number of families switching between programs.</p>
<p>As it stands, if a child drops from their Head Start slot, the agency has to fill the slot even if the new child is there for the last few weeks of the year.</p>
<p>Eric Pommier asked Work Group members to bring their applications in order to create a template for this universal screening tool. Jerri requests a broad range of people attend this meeting in order to determine how to best serve parents with this screening tool.</p>
<p>The screening tool may not determine if a family is eligible for a certain program, but it will give parents a list of potential eligible programs. We want to make sure to respect and uphold parent choice.</p>
<p>Jerri agrees to send out a doodle poll to reschedule our next Early Childhood Coordinating Council meeting.</p>
<p><u>Early Childhood Workforce Training Coordination:</u></p>
<p>The state mandated that the childcare resource and referrals coordinate the training for the EL workforce. Because of the Hub's role to convene people, we're coordinating this training with the Hub.</p>
<p>Therefore, if we had an aligned system for training, what would that look like?</p>
<p>Our brainstorming is on the ECCC group. It includes: online classes using Zoom (state vendor), how to upload online classes to ORO, use a coordination lens to reduce duplication, staff training open meetings to other agencies, use the basecamp Work Group calendar for online opportunities, need for evening and weekend classes, need for set 2 and 3 classes, need for reflective supervision, conscious discipline, trauma informed care, having difficult conversations with parents and coworkers, working with children with special needs, and planning and identifying trainings in our regions.</p>
<p>We're looking toward the ECCC database for future trainings.</p>
<p>Lynette is looking into professional development training.</p>
<p>We need skilled providers to lead trainings for our learning community, cohort, book group, etc. This will help participants implement the skills they learn from the training. We want a mentor to follow up with our participants.</p>
<p>Jerri suggest rescheduling next meeting to the afternoon (she will send out a poll).</p>
<p>Nina and Cindy express their excitement for this screening process.</p>

DISCUSSION ITEM	New Hub Roles & Responsibilities (Metrics)
	<p>Kristi provides background information: came from measuring success committee, an early learning council standing committee. Measuring Success developed recommendations around the metrics. The previous metrics did not truly capture the work of Hubs.</p> <p>Now, we aim to measure the impact of our work moving forward. Kristi and David Mandell, the ELD interim director at that time, representing the Measuring Success Committee, presented these new Hub roles to the ELC, who adopted them.</p> <p>Kristi explains that we went with Hub roles is to define the shared works. Hubs approach roles differently based on the needs of their region, so these roles guide how we work together across the state. Our approaches might be different, but it helps focus and refine our work, create a shared understanding of our accountability, and guide our progress indicators for ELHs.</p> <p>This Roles document will help inform the Monitoring Process for this biennium as they look at accountability for us.</p>

Kristi asks if you have had an opportunity to read the Roles document in the board packet. Each piece begins with the role of the Hub. Several include the role of the Hub in partnership with five sectors. Kristi reviews Goals 1-3, the timeline from the ELD, and the Pilot Roles.

During the summer, there was a small working group that identified three statewide strategies that might work on a statewide level. We plan to pilot these three strategies, present them at the EL Collaborative, and develop cross sector working groups to develop a baseline for the 17-18 year.

All Hubs will pilot these three strategies so we can collect data and move forward.

Each Hub will continue to measure the previous metrics (SPARK-rated programs, CCO, developmental screenings, Kindergarten readiness and assessments, etc.). The Work Groups are looking at this process, as well.

Jerri is curious if existing sub-contractors will lose their funds based on not meeting their benchmarks. Kristi explains that it is a possibility to lose funding. She plans to create a template to present to the Board and funding committee. Funding for this biennium will go through a review process for future funding (especially because our metrics have changed to roles and responsibilities).

Jerri challenges the group to continue to be innovative and provide services in places without services. She also promotes collaborative projects. Kristi reminds the group that taking away an investment will impact a particular community. It's a messy process to define "innovative" projects.

Renee supports an intensive screening process similar to Lynn's screening process.

Our Board members come from different sectors and perspectives and have taken the time to understand EL Hub work and partners. They are equipped to assist in this process because they went through intensive education and ongoing education since coming together three years ago.

Cindy suggests collaboration on funding if their services or goals are similar.

Kristi didn't focus on a discussion over past metrics knowing they would soon change to these new roles and responsibilities, which influenced a lack of direction for this Work Group.

Jerri says we plan to develop a training and cohort to discuss Oregon's Early Learning and Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines from ODE.

Kristi says she is working with ESD and superintendents to identify enough K-12 staff to participate in shared professional development with early learning providers in K-12 to align our efforts. We would use the Oregon's Early Learning and Kindergarten Readiness Guidelines (inspired by Goal 2.1 from the new Hub Roles and Responsibilities).

Kristi is still waiting for a response from K-12 and their participation.

Jerri suggests planning a meeting to dig into this document. Perhaps present the document as an incentive to join the meeting.

Lynn believes K-12 would support our involvement and the utilization of this document.

Kristi needs administration buy-in (the support of superintendents with participation from kindergarten teachers) for Goal 2.

The Data & Evaluation Work Group plans to dig into Goals 1 & 2.

Jerri says there is language in the new Roles and Responsibilities document that needs to be spelled out instead of acronyms. Consider a pull-out of key words and phrases.

Kristi requests Work Group members to post questions on basecamp, in which Kristi can bring back to the state. Written feedback from partners improves accountability.

NEXT MEETING	TBD
MEETING ADJOURNED	2:45pm